

A2  
recipients of the replication object being determined by the replication algorithm based on at least one lookup table in the central system; and

the realignment algorithm updates said at least one lookup table in accordance with the change information of the replication object.

### REMARKS

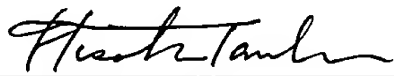
With this amendment, Applicants submit new claims 25-47, which basically correspond to canceled claims 1-22 and 24, respectively. Applicants have hereby corrected improper multiple dependencies of the claims and certain informalities in the claims. This amendment is not submitted for purposes of overcoming issues of patentability over the prior art. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request entry of these amendments.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Preliminary Amendment, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,  
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: December 26, 2001

By:   
Hisako Tanaka  
Granted Limited Recognition  
Under 37 CFR § 10.9(b)